

EWS Quarterly

*Early Warning System Program
News and Announcements from the BIA*

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**BIA Early Warning System
Program Office**

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Welcome to the EWS Newsletter

Fiscal Year 2017 was a busy and productive year for the EWS Program with new project installs, system retrofits, a training workshop, system-wide website enhancements, moving to a new EWS facility, and of course, maintaining the extensive network of over 350 sites at 120 program dams across the U.S. The EWS Program was even featured this year in the National Hydrologic Warning Council Newsletter (www.hydrologicwarning.org).

With everything that's happening, it is hard to keep up with all of the program news. So, welcome to the all new EWS newsletter. Each quarter we will feature new projects, success stories, updates, and announcements from all across the national EWS Program.

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EWS Training Workshop 2017

This July, thirteen Tribal members and regional technicians attended a 3-day EWS Training Workshop, held in Longmont, Colorado, to learn the basics of EWS maintenance and support.

Knowledgeable local staff provide a great benefit to the BIA's Early Warning System Program. For the workshop, learning stations were set up with materials and handouts provided to demonstrate actual scenarios, followed up by Q&A sessions to enhance understanding. As part of the workshop, a training manual was created and distributed.



Participant reviews from the first workshop were overwhelmingly positive, so a second workshop is in the works for 2018. Keep an eye out for dates in the next EWS Quarterly!



"The instructors were great at explaining the information and very knowledgeable."



"I enjoyed the troubleshooting workshops and the hands on activities to assist in real work scenarios."

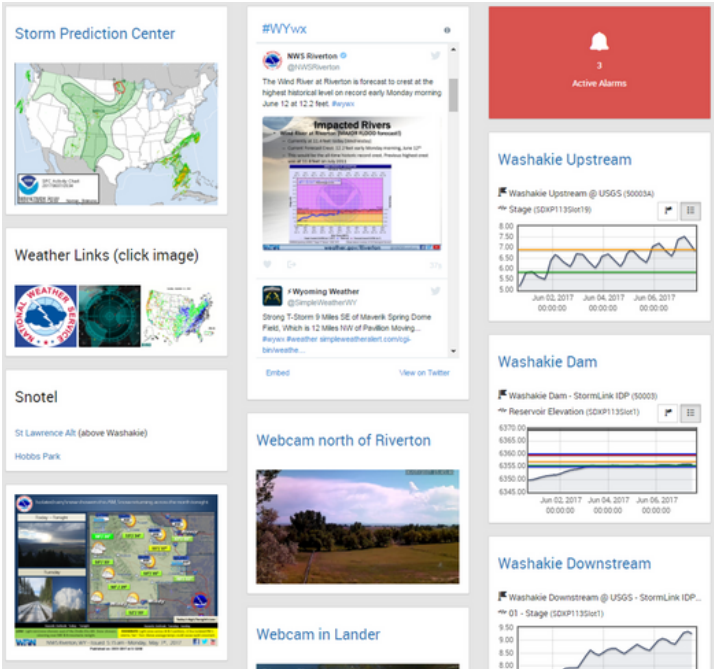


"Best training I've been to."

EWS Website Developments

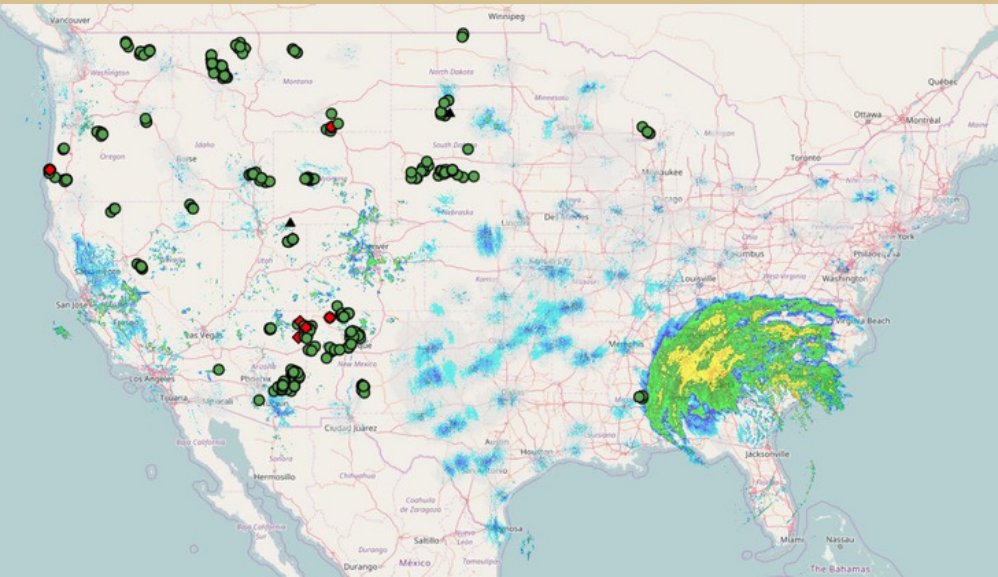
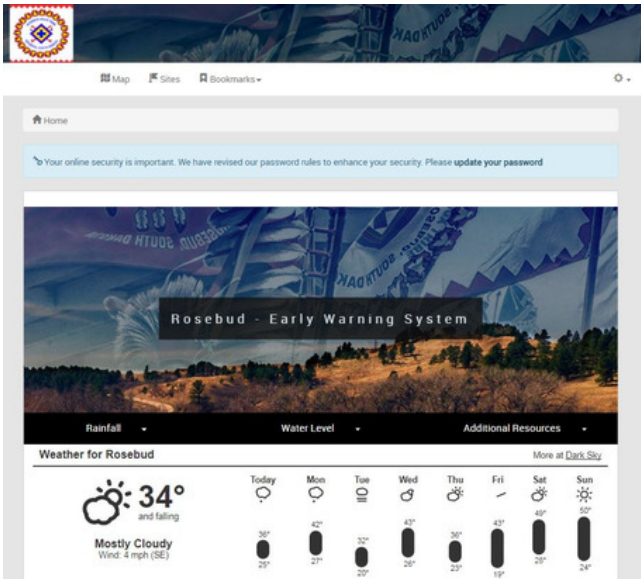
The EWS Website is constantly being improved to enhance user experience.

If you have logged in recently, you may notice that every Reservation now has a personalized website with pertinent weather and data links, as well as access to all real-time EWS data.



The EWS Program is continuing to develop dashboards to easily view all of your relevant data on a single page. A new project now underway will allow Snotel snowpack data to be streamed directly into your dashboard.

If you have forgotten your password, need access for the first time, or have suggestions for the website, please email Lee Mauney at lee.mauney@bia.gov.



The image on the left shows the national map from the website with all 350+ EWS sites shown. Here, Hurricane Irma is visible as it approaches Pushmataha Dam, Choctaw, Mississippi in September of this year.

Link to website:
<https://nmc.onerain.com>

Featured Project

*White Mountain Apache Tribe,
Arizona*

One of the largest BIA networks of EWS sites monitor flooding and dam conditions at Fort Apache, AZ. After historic radio-based equipment had reached the end of service life, it was time to upgrade the system to the latest in communications - satellite telemetry. This fall, with the help of Tribal Specialists, 19 EWS sites were converted and upgraded with new monitoring equipment. With all the latest advances in technology implemented, Fort Apache now has an EWS that will serve the Tribes' dam safety mission for years to come.

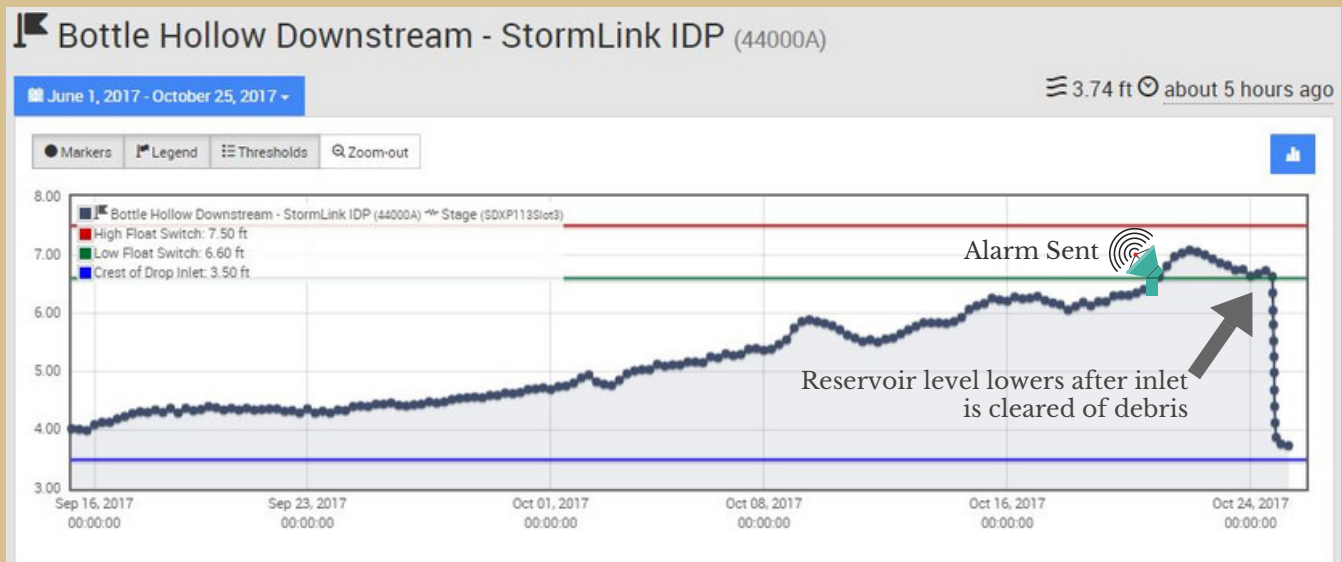
"The new EWS should take away all our problems of communication... it's reliable... it isolates the problem."

"The system is all about safety to all... campers during the summer... local members utilizing the river banks for ceremonies."



A Recent Success Story

Over time, the outlet works at Bottle Hollow downstream Dam (Uintah and Ouray, Utah) became plugged, which caused the reservoir to fill. The EWS alarmed when the low float switch was triggered and notified personal to inspect the drop inlet. Ken Asay, Uintah Irrigation Project Manager, was able to get a crew out to the dam to clear debris before the facility was in danger of overtopping.



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...Welcome to the EWS Newsletter

Next year is already set to be another big year for the EWS Program. If you or your program would like to be featured in a future newsletter please submit your story or project to lee.mauney@bia.gov. Thanks for reading and watch for the next EWS Bulletin, Issue 02 coming out next quarter.



Upcoming Events

Jan. 23-24, 2018: *Tentative*
BIA Safety of Dams
Workshop (TBD)

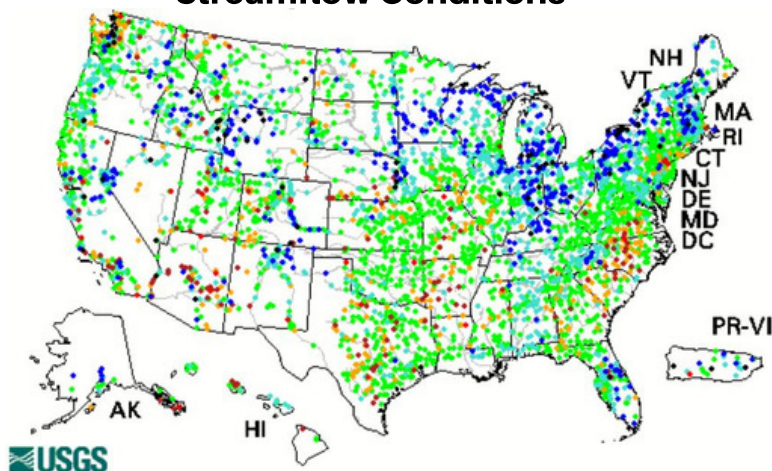
April 17-20, 2018:
ALERT Users Group Annual
Conference (Ventura, CA)

June 4-7, 2018:
ASCE EWRI Congress
(Minneapolis, MN)

Current Hydrologic Conditions

November 2017

Streamflow Conditions



Explanation - Percentile classes						
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

U.S. Drought Monitor

October 31, 2017
(Released Thursday, Nov. 2, 2017)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

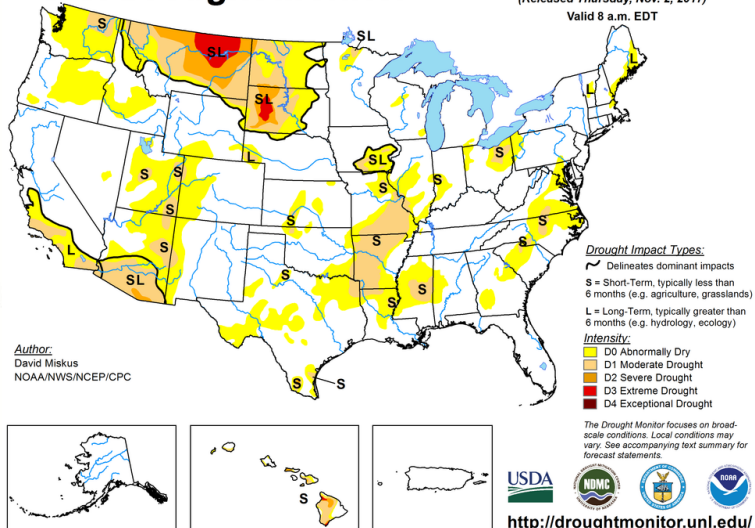


Photo of the Day

Every quarter the newsletter will feature a 'Photo of the Day' submitted from the readers. This quarter's photo is a before and after comparison of the EWS at Happy Valley Dam at Warm Springs, Oregon. In August, the Nena Springs Wildfire burnt the downstream EWS to a crisp. Amazingly, the site is still transmitting despite all of the sensors being destroyed. The EWS Program is in the process of repairing the site.

Please send interesting EWS photos with a short description to lee.mauney@bia.gov.

